

## 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

### 2. Fiscal Year

2018

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination  
Evaluation Committee

### 3b. GSA

### Committee No.

363

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

02/13/2018

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

02/13/2020

### 7. Expected Term Date

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

### 8c. Actual Term Date

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

15 U.S.C. 3711

### 13. Effective Date

10/21/1980

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this  
Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

### 17b. Closed Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

### 17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

### Other Activities

No Activities

|   | Current FY  | Next FY     |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| 18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members         | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members             | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff               | \$90,000.00 | \$90,000.00 |
| 18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants      | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members    | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |
| 18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members        | \$0.00      | \$25,000.00 |
| 18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff          | \$0.00      | \$4,000.00  |
| 18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants | \$0.00      | \$0.00      |

|   |             |              |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| <b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b> | \$0.00      | \$0.00       |
| <b>18d. Total</b>   | \$90,000.00 | \$119,000.00 |
| <b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>                          | 0.90        | 0.90         |

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

During the one formal meeting typically held during the year, the members discuss the nominations for that particular year and reach an agreement on the nominations to recommend to the Secretary of Commerce for his or her recommendation to the President of the United States for award of the Medal. Due to the extensive preparation done by the members prior to the meeting, the committee typically is able to conclude business in one meeting. The program is administered by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Prior to the meeting, the committee reviews all nominations submitted each year (approximately 50). This review requires an understanding of, and experience in, developing and utilizing technological innovation and/or familiarity with the education, training, employment and management of technological manpower. Much of the work is done in advance of the formal committee meeting by the members on their own time. This work is done through phone calls, letters, and emails without formal meetings or cost to the government.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The membership of the Committee is reflective of the diversity of the American innovation system. Members are sought from small, medium-sized, and large businesses and academia, with expertise in a wide array of sub-sectors of the technology enterprise.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Committee currently meets approximately once a year. Extensive preparatory work is done by the Members on their own time, prior to the formal meeting, at which nominations are reviewed, and those nominees selected by the Committee are forwarded to the Secretary. The Secretary then reviews the Committee's recommendations, and forwards a list of recommended nominees for the Medal to the President of the United States. At present this one meeting appears adequate for the Committee to fulfill its essential responsibilities of providing expert assistance for the recommendation of recipients for the Medal. Since this is a Presidential Award, and the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. for technological achievement, it is essential that a high caliber, independent Committee be retained to carry out the evaluation and recommendation process.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Committee provides the Secretary of Commerce with expert evaluation and advice from individuals in the private sector and academia with extensive knowledge and experience in developing and utilizing technological innovation and the education, training, employment and management of technological manpower. Such expertise is not available within the Department of Commerce. Also, the stature of Committee members and the composition of the Committee ensures balance, objectivity, and independence to the process.

## **20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

The Committee review and selection process must be conducted as a closed meeting because the Committee's evaluation includes discussion of the nominees' reputations, ability in their fields, professional backgrounds, and performance. Public disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In addition, premature disclosure of the Committee's recommendations could result in publicity causing professional embarrassment and harm to the reputations of those individuals or companies not ultimately selected and could result in the withdrawal of future nominees from consideration, thus significantly frustrating implementation of the Medal program.

## **21. Remarks**

N/A

## **Designated Federal Officer**

John P Palafoutas DFO

| <b>Committee Members</b> | <b>Start</b> | <b>End</b> | <b>Occupation</b>   | <b>Member Designation</b>                |
|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---|--|
| Dahl, Carol              | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | Executive Director, Lemelson Foundation                       | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Horn, Paul               | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | Senior Vice Provost and Senior Vice Dean, New York University | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Jackson, Shirley Ann     | 11/08/2012   | 08/24/2019 | President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute                   | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Laurencin, Cato          | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | University Professor, University of Connecticut               | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Lowy, Douglas            | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | Deputy Director, National Cancer Institute                    | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Murray, Cherry           | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | Professor, Harvard University                                 | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Ochoa, Ellen             | 11/08/2012   | 08/24/2019 | Director, Johnson Space Center, Retired                       | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Proenza, Luis            | 11/08/2012   | 08/24/2019 | President Emeritus, University of Akron                       | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Sanberg, Paul            | 11/08/2012   | 08/24/2019 | Senior Vice President, University of South Florida            | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Sasson, Steven           | 09/20/2017   | 09/19/2020 | Inventor, Retired, Eastman Kodak Company                      | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

|                  |                       |  |  |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| Takeuchi, Esther | 11/08/2012 08/24/2019 | Chief Scientist, Global and Regional Solutions, Brookhaven National Laboratories | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |
| Whitney, Telle   | 09/20/2017 09/19/2020 | Former President and CEO, Anita Borg Institute for Women and Technology          | Special Government Employee (SGE) Member |

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 12**

### Narrative Description

The Committee was established to assist the Department in executing its responsibilities under 15 U.S.C. 3711. Under this provision, the Secretary of Commerce is responsible for recommending to the President prospective recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. The committee's recommendations are made after reviewing all nominations received in response to a public solicitation.

### What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Trust in government                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes                              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Advance in scientific research                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Effective grant making                            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Improved service delivery                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Increased customer satisfaction                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### Outcome Comments

National recognition of American innovators who have made outstanding contributions to America's competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation.

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

|                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Unable to Determine        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000    | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Over \$10,000,000          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

235

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The Committee did not meet in FY 2018, therefore, there were no new recommendations made. The Committee makes recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce who in turn makes recommendations to the President. The number of names of recommendations is kept confidential until the White House and the Department of Commerce release a public announcement of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation Laureates.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

100%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Upon public announcement of the NMTI Laureates.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

Not applicable.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

Agency provides feedback to committee members through the program manager.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Action Comments**

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

|                           |                                     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

**Access Comments**

N/A